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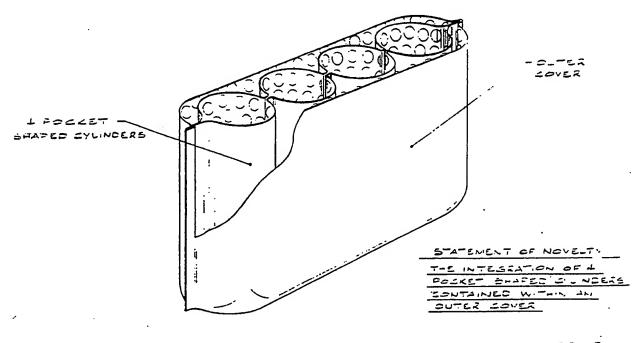
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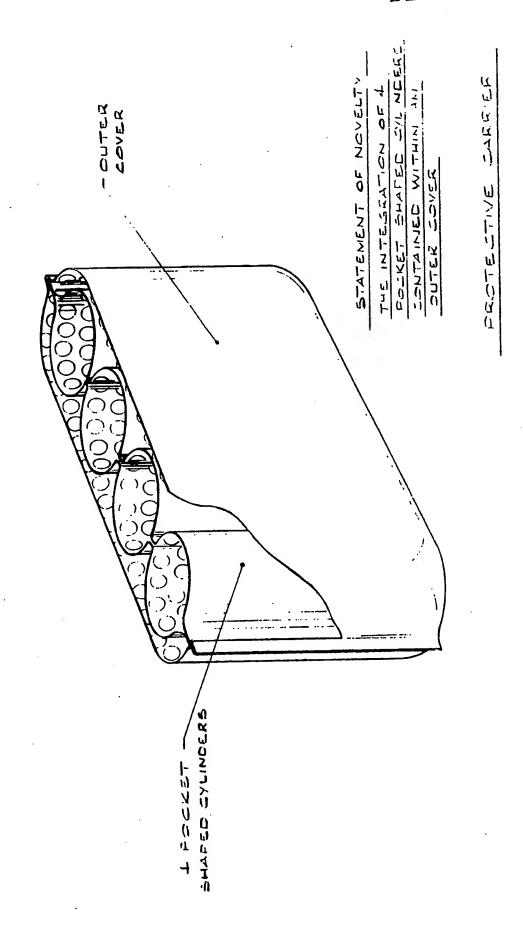
(54) Protective carrying arrangement for bottles

(57) A compartmentalized carrying bag for wine bottles is constructed with the use of a material of plastic sheet which embodies bubbles of air distributed over its area (i.e. bubble pack) to form bottle shaped receptacles and when constructed forms a carrying bag which protects the inserted bottles from damage.

The assembly can be used as an insert for a bag, or the bubble pack material can be formed with an additional outer sheet.



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PROTECTIVE BOTTLE CARRYING ARRANGEMENT

This invention relates to a protective carrying arrangement for bottles.

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Bottles of wine or the like are commonly carried away from a sales outlet in a simple carrier bag. There is a risk of breakage, either from bottles in the same bag knocking against each other or against objects such as a wall or the ground. Various carrier bags have been proposed, formed from plain sheet material and provided with separate pockets for the individual bottles, but these bags do not significantly reduce the risk of breakage.

I have now devised a protective carrying arrangement for bottles, which overcomes the above drawbacks of those hitherto.

In accordance with this invention, there is provided a protecting carrying arrangement for bottles, which includes a plurality of pockets for receiving individual bottles and which is formed of sheet cushioning material.

A preferred sheet cushioning material is bubble pack, i.e. plastics sheet which incorporates bubbles of air distributed over its area.

The arrangement or structure may comprise two superimposed portions of sheet material which are welded or otherwise secured together along predetermined lines to define the pockets for the individual bottles. As one example, the structure may comprise two separate, superimposed pieces - 2 -

of sheet material welded together along three edges to form two sides and a bottom, and along a line or lines running from the bottom to the top to form the required number of pockets. As another example, the structure may comprise a single piece of the sheet material folded in half to form two sides and the bottom, then welded along the opposite edges and a line or lines running from the bottom to the top to form the pockets.

The structure may be formed from bubble pack material with its bubble-side facing inwardly of the pockets. This bubble-side exhibits greater friction than the smooth, non-bubble side, with the effect of restraining bottles from sliding out of their pockets. However if in certain cases the greater friction would make it difficult to insert the intended bottles into their pockets, then the structure may be formed with the smooth side of the bubble-pack facing inwardly.

Preferably the structure presents a smooth outer surface, which may carry printing or the like. The structure may be formed or provided with a handle or pair of handles so that it forms a unitary carrier bag. Alternatively, it may form a cushioning insert for reception within a carrier bag of conventional materials and construction.

An embodiment of this invention will now be described by way of example only and with reference to the accompaying drawing, the single figure of which is a perspective view of one form of protective bottle carrying structure in accordance with the invention.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown a protective carrying arrangement for bottles—which is formed from sheet cushioning material and specifically bubble-pack, i.e. plastics sheet incorporating air bubbles distributed over its area and projecting from one side whilst the other side is smooth.

In the example shown, the carrying arrangement or

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structure comprises two portions of bubble pack 10, 12 superimposed over each other and welded together over vertical lines to define four pockets 14 for receiving bottles in upright position. The portions 10, 12 of bubble pack may be disposed with the bubble side facing inwardly or outwardly according to the intended application. ture further comprises an outer member 16 of bubble pack formed into a bag receiving the inner member 10, 12. outer member may comprise a single piece of bubble pack folded in half to form the opposite sides and bottom of 10 the bag and welded together along the opposite edges. Preferably the bubble pack of the outer member is disposed with its smooth side facing outwardly, which side may bear printing or the like.

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The structure may be provided with handles so that it forms a complete carrying unit. Instead, it may form an insert for reception within a carrier bag of conventional materials and construction.

It will be appreciated that the cushioning effect of the bubble pack alleviates the risk of breakage of the bottles, either from bottles knocking against each other or against external objects.

CLAIM

The claim protects the manufacture of a compartmentalized bottle carrying bag with its construction utilising a bubble pack material (i.e. plastic sheet which incorporates bubbles of air distributed over it's area) either as a integral item of construction of the carrying bag or the bubble pack material being assembled between plastic sheet material to protect the bottles from sustaining damage either by impact from an external source or by impact between the bottles.

